27 Sunday in Ordinary Time october 8th 2017 THEME God's Love for me INTRODUCTION

The second reading today from the letter of St. Paul to the Phillipians, St Paul tells us not to worry, but if there is anything you need, he advises us to pray for it, asking God for it in a spirit of thankfulness of gratitude. Because we live with an attitude of gratitude, brings with it an inner peace. Even during times of difficulty or suffering there is always a reason to be grateful if our eyes are open.

In this era of 24 hour news coverage we often find ourselves surrounded by negativity; listening to the bad news fretting about the future ,or being in the company of people who have little good to say about life or others. If we drift into that gloomy spirit it can lead us to cynicism ,bitterness or despair that leaves no space for gratitude , instead of opening our hands and hearts for God's daily gifts we prefer to hold on to our

disappointment in God or others or the world at large.

The abiding message for us in today' scriptures is, that God is Lord of hopefulness who takes care of us his people, his vineyard. He will ensure for us that we have fruitful lives filled with peace and confidence rooted in the spirit of things for the things that bring us joy; the gifts of life faith, family, friendship and community through which we daily encounter his love and care and beauty AMEN